

SENATE BILL NO. 421

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 34:3522, relative to certain port commissions; to provide for the rights and  
3 powers of such commissions; to provide for functions relative to economic and  
4 industrial growth; to authorize the acquisition and operation of air cargo airports; and  
5 to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 34:3522 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 **§3522. Rights and powers for economic and industrial growth**

9 **A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a**  
10 **commission of a port, other than a deep water port, with a population of not less**  
11 **than two hundred fifty thousand and not more than four hundred thousand**  
12 **within its jurisdiction may perform the following functions but shall not be**  
13 **limited to:**

14 **(1) Public relations, advertising, marketing, and providing and**  
15 **disseminating information.**

16 **(2) Government relations, ombudsman, and government liaison.**

17 **(3) Financial and financing assistance.**

18 **(4) Tax abatement.**

19 **(5) Planning and coordination for economic development and resource**  
20 **utilization, including such functions as industrial and economic research and**

1 industrial programming and solicitation.

2 (6) Industrial training, technical assistance, and technology transfer.

3 (7) Using public and other legal powers to facilitate development.

4 (8) Promoting transfer mechanisms to take ideas from the point of origin  
5 and development to commercially successful utilization by local enterprise.

6 (9) Fostering entrepreneurial activity in the port area.

7 (10) Promoting the development of new products, processes, or services  
8 or new uses for existing products, processes, or services manufactured or  
9 marketed in the port area.

10 (11) Supporting market research aimed at identifying new markets for  
11 local or regional products and processes, including international markets,  
12 determining the characteristics, needs, and preferences of those markets, and  
13 developing new marketing techniques to exploit those markets.

14 (12) Fostering and supporting economic industrial development and  
15 education in cooperation with private business enterprises, financial  
16 institutions, educational institutions, nonprofit institutions and organizations,  
17 state government and political subdivisions of the state, the federal government,  
18 and other organizations or persons concerned with research, development,  
19 education, commercial application, and economic or industrial development in  
20 ways which increase the economic base of the port area.

21 (13) Acquiring and operating air cargo airports within its territorial  
22 jurisdiction together with all property and facilities located therein, and any  
23 land as the commission may deem necessary for the present and future  
24 operations of such air cargo airports.

25 B. For the purposes enumerated in Subsection A of this Section, the  
26 commission may engage in any activities and projects it deems most appropriate  
27 to encourage and assist economic growth and development in the port area.

28 C. In furtherance of the rights and powers enumerated in Subsections  
29 A and B of this Section, the commission shall not be subject in any respect to the  
30 authority, control, or supervision of any parish or municipal regulatory body.

1           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
2 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
3 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
4 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
5 effective on the day following such approval.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_